THE

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Issue #29

BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

The BRUTUS BULLETIN is a bi-weekly (except for next issue) newsletter of postal DIPLOMACY, and is brought to you by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 526Q, Moore, Okla 73165 for a paltry 25ϕ an issue, at least until the next postal rate increase comes along. There are game openings (see below) for \$2 plus sub, or three dollars WITHOUT a sub. That way you can still play in my fast games and not have to read the reactionary stuff I'm famous for...

Oh, and don't let me forget to mention that this is NORTH AMERICA'S NUMBER ONE DIPZINE as of the 1978 Leeder Poll. If you don't know what the Leeder poll is, stay tuned and I'll tell you many times over starting next spring, when I begin preparations to be North America's Number One Dipzine FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR. Humble as I am....

I have a potload of things to cover, so let me start right in with what should be in ODDS AND ENDS right here on the cover instead.

LAST ISSUE I had a large section called ZINES RECEIVED, wherein were mentioned the Dipzines URF DURFAL and LIES, DECEIT, & NEFARIOUS SCHEMES. I fully intended to add the word RECOMMENDED after the coverage of those two as I did after some of the others, but forgot to do so. Let me start this issue right off by saying so. LDNS has the added feature of being not only interesting as these two both are, but is regular as well. And the publisher, Jerry Jones, expects to find his name in every issue of BB. There it is, Jerry. RETARIUS was also reviewed, and I wrote that it carried, among other things, "politics". Well, that should have read, POWER POLITICS, a game of some sort. For regular politics, you're in the right place now.

"For those parents who don't think \$600 is too much to spend to broaden their children's horizons, Radio Shack" will rip you off for a "computer" for your kids to play with, apparently consisting of a keyboard and a pocket calculator tied to a CRT screen. A cheaper way to broaden their horizons would be to sign them up for some of my GAME OPENINGS right here. For \$2 plus sub (or \$3 withOUT), you can enter either my special TEN DAY DEADLINE GAME or a normal two-week-deadline game. These will be the last game openings in BRUTUS BULLETIN for many moons.

GUYANA is a popular topic with local editors these past few weeks who just revel in such horror and gore. Personally, I didn't see it as all that bad. Hell, I endorse Jones' policies as an example of those I'd like to see ALL freaked out wierdie groups follow. Let em ALL cut their own throats. Good riddance to them.

More random Notes --

I've received the issue of EVERYTHING that Cal White said he'd "soon send out" way back in a BB of some weeks or months back. The Agostas, who mailed the issue, added a short cover sheet showing game finishes received, since the issue was strictly game starts with #s. Quite a few finishes were listed, mostly 76-77. One 7B game was listed: 78AX, from right here. Ta da...

LEE KENOTER sent out a warning an issue back in his WHY ME? which I meant to pass on sooner but overlooked. He notes that the Spring \underline{OW} had an ad for old Oip boards and exotic metal pieces available from a Charles Anschell, 1226 N Rossell Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302. It turns out that you may not get the items you ordered, although Mr Anschell will cash your check.

MARK BERCH jumped on me along with quite a few others the other day, sending in two of his DIPLOMACY DIGESTs on the same day I got EGGNOG, 4 RUNESTONES, 2 sample BROUHAHAS, a CAMPAIGN, and damn near a partridge in a pear tree to boot. This is the first time ever that a OIP OIGEST has arrived here and not been almost read cover to cover upon arrival . his more interesting articles this time concerned player's rights/control over orphaned games and transfers, adding a note at the end about how players can act together and do something more than just wait away the months. I say, 'Here, here'. (Or is it 'Hear,hear'?) Whichever, I know from my own experience that this is the case. I was in 77FJ and 77HH begun by a pure ripoff clown acting under the auspices of OUTPOSTS magazine, (a pretty shaky affair itself), and when it became apparent that this guy had hung it up for good, I got busy. Alan Rowland of WARMONGER kindly offered to pick them up and was in the process of doing so when John Mirassou, trying to get his SAYA DASTI-- going, asked for orphans. I worked with Alan and got him to let John have them so SAYA would have some games, when naturally, Mirassou gave it up. Well, now they among others are being salvaged by Jerry Jones (LO&NS), to whom I also sent game info.He, the current GM, is the third one I sent material to, yet I did get something from everyone I approached! So, if you try--and you don't need to do all THAT much--new homes are there. Jerry Jones right now is the best bet, and other publishers/prospective publishers can also contact Jerry to help take the load off too. (If you think I'm being hypocritical in not having any here, let me point out that this is a specialized zine dealing in FAST games to which the majority of players would NOT want to abide). One problem Mark's article did not address was that of protective agreements, such as specifically ONYMPA. As Alan Rowland put it (in a jokes section), "speaking of jokes, anyone heard of ONYMPA rescuing any games lately?" Specifically, I refer (and I beleive Alan does) to the collapse of Doug Reif's BLACK HOLE last spring. It took down what would have been my first win, 761K, 76EI, and one other, I believe. What had he cranked out one more issue, plus 74HX, has happened? Not a hell of a lot, frankly. All DNYMPA pubbers supposedly "insure" each other's games, yet the last BLACK HOLE was late March or early April, and so far I've gotten a referal to Brad Hessel by Bob Lipton (the only regular ONYMPA pubber anyway, now defunct), no response to two letters to Hessel, and one note from Greg Costikyan (URF DURFAL--not a regular pubber, but does get them out now and then) saying that ONYMPA didn't want to transfer the games without Doug's permission, but Doug hadn't responde not. If he says 'screw my players', why respond to other curious publishers? I say, screw the irresponsible GM and transfer the games whether he likes it or not. Trouble here is, no one else will try to 'break in' on what ONYMPA has staked out as its turf and adopt an orphan that is ONYMPAs responsibility, and DNYMPA itself has a hard time turning out its own stuff, let alone take care of such mundane matters as picking up and resuscitating another brother-GMs abandoned games. I guess all there really is to say to that is, read NY zines if you like (they're good, when they come out), but don't be fool enough to sign up in one. I think it was Jerry Jones that I elaborated to on this already, and maybe he'll run my comments elsewhere, so I'll let it rest at that for now. I'll report any further developements, but don't hold your breath.

J. 74.

LAST MINUTE LETTER from CONRAD von METZKE

PO Box 626 San Diego CA 92112 12-11-78

Dear John,

IT WORKED! The "R.I.P. DIPLOMACY WORLD" announcement you sent out accomplished precisely what I'd hoped; I found someone to bail us out and continue the magazine! Therefore, although there'll be a very short hiatus while we transfer control, there will be no need for refunds or any replacement magazines, and the hobby will still have its professional voice.

I'm extremely sad to have had to go under like this, but it was simply not possible to continue with the financial losses (which I had never expected when I took over, and which in fact I had been expressly assured wouldn't occur). Our new wieting

editors apparently have no such compunctions.

At this time I cannot provide any details, but they should be settled very shortly (a few days) and I'll rush you the scoop then. Naturally, full credit for unexpired subs will be given. It is my understanding that all trades will continue, although this may change inasmuch as the new people have no intention of maintaining an archives.

I might mention that there were actually two offers to take the magazine, from Elmer Hinton and Helena Rubinstein. (Don't laugh, that's her name!) One has been selected by Walt with my consultation, but I do not intend to tell anybody which one until I've talked to both. That will be done on Thursday, 12-14 (can't get to a phone at the right hour until then), and after that I'll write further information.

And as for me? Well, I intend to continue writing for DW if the new ed. will have me. And of course I've just started GMing a game in Don Horton's CLAW AND FANG. And, Ghod forbid, my neighbor told me the other day that he knows how to fix my long-broken ditto machine, so...guess what may be revived for the fifth time?

(Then again, it may not.)
(If it were, would anyone have me?)

That's all for now. You'd be astonished how finding a successor has pulled me out of a really nasty depression....

Best regards,

The Washington Star

Founded in 1852

MURRAY J. GART. Editor

SIDNEY EPSTEIN, Executive Editor EDWIN M. YODER JR., Editorial Page Editor

PHILIP EVANS, BARBARA COHEN, Managing Editors

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1978

MiG-23s in Cuba

Soviet Premier Kosygin was described as bristling, last week, when visiting U.S. senators asked about the MiG-23s which the Russians have begun furnishing to Cuba — some 15 to 18 of the aircraft since July. According to one story he "accused the senators of going into too much detail."

The MiG-23—what kind of plane it is, why it's being sent to Cuba, what response if any is in order from President Carter—may seem to Mr. Kosygin a petty detail. Few Americans, we suspect, will see it that way.

In purely military terms, the plane probably has no great strategic significance — none, certainly, to match the nuclear submarines for which in 1970 the Russians were quietly constructing a maintenance base at Cienfuegos. The MiG-23 is a light-weight, single engine "single-seat supersonic fighter" (according to Jayne's Combat Aircraft); but in one configuration it is capable of carrying a small nuclear missile on a 1200-mile one-way mission. If the planes detected by U.S. satellites in Cuba turn out to be MiGs of strategic capacity, their presence will raise unwelcome questions for President Carter.

One question is simply, why? Given the history of U.S. sensitivity to Russian arms of strategic design in Cuba, dating back to the missile crisis of October 1962, there is no good time for sending such planes. But with a second SALT treaty around the corner, and shortly to be submitted to the Senate, it is the worst imaginable time for Soviet political pressure (if nothing more) on Mr. Carter.

The political pressure is already sensed. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown has dutifully asked in a confidential memo whether MiG-23s in Cuba are "offensive weapons" under the Kennedy-Khrushchev understanding of 1962. President Carter has found it timely to renew the SR-71 overflights of Cuba which he had called off as a gesture of good will in January 1977

Already it is asked if this is another of those "probes" of U.S. forbearance which the Russians in their incurable aggressiveness undertake from time to time, just to discover what they might get away with. We do not pretend to know. When the Russians are involved, one can never exclude mere blundering insensitivity to

the way American politics works. But however the MiG-23s are "wired," whether as interceptors or as nuclear craft, it is improbable that Russian motives are wholly innocent. These planes have been supplied to none of the Warsaw Pact nations, except Bulgaria. Why are they needed for Cuba's "defense"? Defense against what, precisely?

Whether or not the planes violate the 1962 understanding depends on several things—whether, for instance, they are nuclear armed or could be. And it is the president's task to define offensiveness. But too narrow a construction could be interpreted as a sign that he would swallow more than MiG-23s.

In 1962 President Kennedy insisted that Russian IL-28 fighter-bombers be removed from Cuba, along with intermediate-range missiles. This was done, over Mr. Khrushchev's solemn protestation that IL-28s were obsolescent, even harmless, and in any case belonged to the Cubans. If the IL-28s were deemed "offensive" then, may the MiG-23s be seen as less so now?

We do not know how seriously this "probe" is being taken by President Carter. That will probably depend on what the SR-71 photos reveal. But any evidence of a feint to alter the strategic equation in the Western Hemisphere, even a minor one, would have to be taken seriously. The price of indifference would be too great. If ignored, the MiG-23s could invite a more provocative followup - for instance, the activation of the Cienfuegos sub base. And in any case the matter presents the critics of SALT with damaging ammunition. For them, a fundamental issue. is whether Russian professions of interest in a stable U.S.-Soviet military relationship may be taken at face value; and only the president has the capacity to insist that agreements be honored to the letter.

We aren't suggesting that President Carter ought to make a sharp, noisy public issue of the MiG-23s in Cuba, especially if they are found to be truly "defensive." The graver issue of the submarine base in 1970 was quietly handled, but no less firmly for that, and the base has not been used. But President Carter should respond to the MiG-23 provocation firmly. If there is clear evidence that the planes are nuclear, he should quietly tell the Russians they will have to go before any new SALT agreement can be initialed or sent to the Senate.

77K N

FRENCH : MARINES RETURN TO ITALY AS TWO FOILED ATTACKS BLOCK TRAFFIC

Fall, 1912

AUSTRIA (KASSEL): A UKR & A VIE & A BOH S A Gal; A GAL S A Ukr; A TYO S A Boh;

A PIE S TURKISH F Rom-Tus; A VEN S A Pie

A STL-Gal; A MUM-Sil; A BUR-Mun; A RUH S A Bur-Mun; A MAR-Pie FRANCE (DITTER):

F NTH H; F Lyo-TUS; F TYN S F Lyo-Tus; F WES & F TUN S F Tyn;

F Spasc-GLYO

RUSSIA (McELVANEY): A WAR & A PRU S FRENCH A Mun-Sil; A MOS & A LVN S A War;

A STP S A Mos; Fs DEN, BAL KIE H

TURKEY (HUESTON): A SEV S AUSTRIAN A Ukr; F BLA S A Sev; F ROM-Tus; F NAP-Rom;

F ION-Nap; F AEG-Ion; F ADR S F Aeg-Ion

1912: Austria: Home, Ser, Gre, Rum, Ven

7 even France: Home Spa Por Lvp Bel Lon Tun Mun Hol Ber 12 l ann., build l

Russia: StP Mos War Nwy Swe Edi Den Kie 8 even Turkey: Home Bul Sev Nap Rom <u>7</u> even 34

DEADLINE for Winter, 1912, and Spring, 1913, is my mail received here FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1978, and may be conditional on builds. THERE IS A CALL FOR AN AFRT DRAW. No vote received will be counted as a YES! Press follows.

COA: Dave Ditter, foolishly going from sunny California to: 7340 Xerxes Ave M, Minneapolis, MN 55444, Dec 22-Jan 7 inclusive.

Paris: Now it's our turn to show some offensive!

((Lately I've been surprised (and disaffeinted) to see that a majority of people in the Dip-pubbing business seem to consider the error of naming an army a fleet or vice versa in orders as grounds for invalidating the order. I wish to use the extra space on this page to point out that this will NOT work that way in BRUTUS BULLETIN. Here, as stated in both the Dip rules and my houserules, a badly written order will be carried out, and obvious oversights will be corrected. So, if you order "A Bla-Con", it will NOT appear as "A Bla-Con/NSU; F BLA unordered, H" as it apparently would in most other zines. Bord, it will come out "F Bla-CON", as Liong as you really DO have a fleet in the Black Sea. (Now I know Mark Berch will write right back and say, 'But what if he really DOES have an army in the Black Sea?' I won't answer that, but leave it up to the audience...) F Con-Bul, however, WOULD fail, here on gounds of ambiguity. F Con-Bulec or F Con-Bulsc are both possible, so it would fail (and wouldn't block, say, A Ser-Bul). On the other hand, F Nwy-StP would SUCCEED (as an order) because F Nwy can only reach StP nc. Thus it is UNambiguous, and would be written by me as F Nwy-StPnc". I hope this helps explain some fine points to you newcomers in IH, etc.))

((The deadline appears short, but remember that players copies of adjudicutions left here Dec 6, not 16th)).]. M.

JOP SPECIFICATIONS FOR MATERIEL CONTROL

- (1) PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS You must be able to lift a coke can, cigarette, and phone receiver or any combination thereof to be a fully qualified Materiel Control troop. You also must be able to effectively operate and score points on a computerized basketball game. You must be able to write and talk at the same time. Recruits that are not able to meet the specifications will be given a six (6) month remedial course by TSgt Johnnie D. Gibbs. Sgt Gibbs will also instruct you on how to talk Maintenance Talk! This will include big words such as "DUH", "SCREW", AND "SHIT". You will also learn how to answer the phone with one hand without dropping it. If at the end of this six month period you can't perform all these specifications, you will be immediately promoted to "AICTC" (Airman in Charge of Trash Cans) a very high honor indeed!
- (2) MENTAL SPECIFICATIONS You must be able to remember your name and birthday for at least 24 hours without looking at your I.D. card. If you can't accomplish this in a 6 month period then a remedial training course will be set up for you. At the end of this period you should be able to remember the above plus how to get to your place of duty without using a MAP. You will need to know how to spell words such as missile, hot water heater, maintenance wenies, and how to ask for time off! Before you can even be considered for Materiel Control you must receive an intelligence rating somewhere between ignorant and moron. In order to receive such a high rating your I.Q. must be at least equal to your shoe size.
- (3) <u>BEHAVIORAL SPECIFICATIONS</u> There is only one requirement all sexually perverted acts committed in this office must take place at the mid-morning, lunch, or mid-afternoon breaks. This is to allow full evaluation by your co-workers.

BEING THE BRANCH OIC AND HAVING A MAINTENANCE BACKGROUND AUTOMATICALLY QUALIFIES ME - NO 6 MONTH REMEDIAL COURSES

FOR ME!

GALEN WORKMAN

"The ((clipping at right)) was printed in the LA Times at the end of September. Perhaps the sentiment sentiment expressed is something which you, John Boardman, Rod Walker, Mark Borch, etc. and I can agree with!"

Sissy Drink

Your editorial, (Sept. 19), "A Scoring Thought," blamed Proposition 13 for the sad fact that four of the five members of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, as well as the board attorney, have been sipping margaritas from their coffee cups during public sessions.

Whather or not Proposition 13 is responsible, this is a clear case of government deterioration. Generations of American politicians have drunk bourbon from their coffee cups during public meetings; doing so has been, for them, as American as apple pie and a cherished symbol of political deception. But it is easy to see why the public is having doubts about its government when supervisors of a mining county coddle themselves with a sissy drink like margaritas instead of renewing their strength with bourbon.

If I thought the male members of the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors were sipping margaritas from their coffee cups, instead of bourbon, I'd start a drive to have them all recalled before it was too late. The citients of Placer County, if they want strong government, had better do the same.

PAUL BURLEIGH Santa Barbara FIRST BORDER CLASHES IN THE EAST AS DRAWS FAIL AGAIN!

Summer: French A Bel r BUR

ENGLAND (CD): A YOR H

FRANCE (BAUMEISTER)A Bur-BEL; A PIC S A Bur-Bel; F POR-Mid; F BRE S F Por-Mid; F LVP H MMR: F HLG H; F Nth H/d/r /pr Lon, Eng, Otb; A Hol & A Bel H/ann. GERMANY (REGES):

F How-Noc; F Ska-NTH; F DEN & F EDI S F Ska-Nth; A SWE S F Den; RUSSIA (KASSEL):

A Fin-NWY; A Ruh-HOL; A KIE S A Ruh-Hol; A MUN S A Kie; A GAL-Bud;

A VIE H; A_UKR-Gal

TURKEY (KENDTER, Jr): A Ank convoys an important message to Moscow/NSU; A BUL-Rum; LR-Rum; A .RI-Bud; A TYO-Vie; F Tyn-ION; A Mar-GAS; A Pie-MAR; F NAF S F Wes-Mid; F WES-Mid; F SPAsc S F Mid-Por; F MID-Por; F GLYO-Wes

1910: England: Lyp 0 Out France: % Por Bre Par Bel LVP

5 even Germany: XI # ##I Lon West 1 2 ann., remove 1

Russia: Home Nwy Bud Vie Rum Ber Mun Edi Swe DEN KIE

HOL 15 build 3

Turkey: Home Bul Gre Ser Tri Ven Rom Nap Tun Mar SPA 13 build 1

34

DEADLINE for Winter, 1910, and Spring, 1911, is my mail received here FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 23, 1978, and may be conditional on builds, etc. I'm not calling for a German standby, but if anyone volunteers... Press follows.

Burgundy: But a nice jerk! Why don't you ever write me? Maybe something could have been arranged

Paris press: Dear idiot king Reges, go screw yourself. We know that you are an expert at this subject.

Turkey-Russia (via Ankara) -- No more Russian build up will be tolerated! Your delaying of the draw will get you the win, but no Turkish centers will be used for that purpose. Stay out of France.

((Someone wrote in to ask/comment on black press, and I think they misunderstood some of it. 1977KS above currently has black press allowed, so I will use it as an example. The middle "Paris press" entry is most clear-cut, so let me use it to elaborate. It is a simple insult of the German. However, it may well represent an attempt by name other power to simply get the German irritated at France to keep him away from WHIR units. Or, it could be sent in by the German himself to give himself an excuse for "getting back" at that insulting Frenchman when in fact France might be Germany's best friend (i.e., use it to cover a stab). Or, it might really represent Franco-German animosity (perhaps so even if 'Paris' DIDN'T submit it!). So you see, in an 'open press' game, you can never take things at their face value, but rather, it adds still another dimension to the guessing aspect of the game, as well as fun in the case of well-done press. Or really raunchy press. Or whatever.

Again, I use this as an example. For all you know, the particular entry above might be any, all, or none of the above. Indeed, maybe it was put under the wrong game by mistake! My comments here are only to show many of you newer (to BB) faces what and how black press is/can be used for.))

CHRISTMAS TIME

Christmas time is here by golly Disapproval would be folly Deck the halls with hunks of holly Pour the punch and don't say when.

Kill the turkeys, geese and chickens Mix up the punch, drag out the Dickens Eventhough the prospect sickens Brother, here we go again!

On Christmas Day you can't get sore Your fellow man you must adore There's time to rob him all the more The other three hundred and sixty four.

Relations sparing no expense'll Send some useless old utensil Or a matching pen and pencil Just the thing I need, how nice.

It doesn't matter how sincere it is Or how heartfelt the spirit Sentiment will not endear it What's important is the price!

Hark the Herald Tribune sings Advertising wonderous things God rest ye merry merchants May ye make the yule tide pay Angels we have heard on high Tell us to go out and buy.

So, let the rockus sleigh bells jingle Hail our dear old friend Kris Kringle Driving his reindeer across the sky Don't stand underneath when they fly by!

formerly BRUTUS #4

SPRING, 1901

LITTLE INDECISION OUT THERE AS NEW HEADS OF STATE LUNGE AT THEIR NEIGHBOR'S THROAT: ITALY FOLLOWS GREELEY'S ADVICE, TURKS SET OUT TO FEAST CN ROMANOFF RUMP. GERMANY RUSSIA'S ONLY FRIEND?

AUSTRIA: (RAU)

A VIE-Gal; A Bud-SER; F Tri-ALB
ENGLAND: (KATZ)

F Lon-NTH; F Edi-NWG; A Liv-YOR

FRANCE: (FROST) F Bre-MAO; A MAR S A Par-Bur; A Par-BUR

GERMANY: (SHAFFER) F Kie-HOL; A Mun-RUH; A Ber-KIE ITALY: (KASSEL) A Ven-PIE; A RCM H; F Nap-TYN

RUSSIA: (HAYNER) ·F Sev-RUM; A Mos-UKR; A WAR-Gal; F StPsc-GOB

TURKEY: (PILANT) A Con-BUL; F Ank-BLA; A Smy-ARM

Deadline for Fall, 1901, will be my mail received here Friday, JANUARY 5, 1978. That again is three weeks off, but with the Xmas crunch for the next 10 days and another holiday after that, I don't think that's unfair. It will also allow me to get KN,KS, and IH running together. BB 30 will be out the 6th or so with them, giving ME a brief break of a week. Assorted press follows.

COA ("Change Of Address"): Monty Hayner, to 958 E Lexington Drive, Lakeland, FL 33801

1978 IH Press:

Istanbul: His Most High Majesty, the Grand Sultan, Son of Mohammed, Defender of the Faith, Scourge of Infidels, let it be proclaimed: The anniversary of his birth approacheth! Allah be praised! Gifts are expected. Suitable gifts include Tunis, Greece, Romamia, Moscow, Budapest...Spain.

Unnamed press: The Austrian moves mightly against the Kaiser. France invades Spain's neutrality.

((No dateline)) Rumors in St Petersburg have it that an alliance has been signed between Italy and Germany.

Rome: Danke

nypost 31 octigal

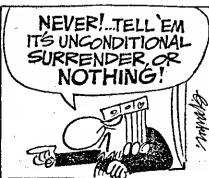
A Note on what all this is: More than one of you is a complete newcomer, so "for the record", let me go over the abbreviations "just in case". I will use Russia as an example. "F Sev-RUM" indicates that fleet Sevastopol was ordered to RUMania, and the move succeeded; "A WAR-Gal" shows that army Warsaw was ordered to GALicia, but the move mandam FAILED because of the Austrian order Vie-Gal. Therefore, both army Vienna and army Warsaw are still in their original starting places. By scanning the orders, the underlined ones failed, and the units are now located wherever the CAPITAL letters indicate. See 77KS for examples of displacements ("r", retreat) and annihilations.

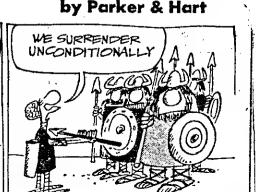
Last minute filler from JOHN BOARDMAN:

If you're not sure, ASK!! See notes below KN + KS also!

WIZARD OF ID

THE HUNS WISH TO NEGOTIATE A PEACE SETTLEMENT





J. W.



FOR YOUR VERY OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE
YOU ARE AWARDED:

"One Attaboy"

ONE THOUSAND "ATTABOYS" QUALIFIES YOU TO BE A LEADER OF MEN, WORK OVERTIME WITH A SMILE, EXPLAIN ASSORTED PROBLEMS TO MANAGEMENT, AND BE LOOKED UPON AS A LOCAL HERO, WITHOUT A RAISE IN PAY.

NOTE: ONE "AWSHIT" WIPES THE BOARD CLEAN AND YOU HAVE TO START ALL OVER AGAIN.

937 (1) C33 (1

FALL, 1901

Central Powers (Craig Reges)

Allied Powers (Bill Shaffer)

Austria: A Gal-UKR; A RUM S TURK

A Arm-Sev; F Alb-GRE

Germany: <u>F DEN-Swe</u>; <u>A RUH-Bel</u>;

A Kie-HOL

Turkey: F ANK-Bla; A Arm-SEV;

A BUL S AUST A Rum.

England: F Nwg-NWY; F NTH C A Edi-Bel;

A Edi-BEL

France: F Mid-POR; A Mar-SPA; A BUR S

ENGL A Edi-Bel

Russia: F GOB-Swe; F Sev-Bla/ann.;

A Sil-Ber; A Ukr-WAR

CD: Italy: F NAP, A ROM, A VEN H -

1901: Austria: Home RUM GRE 5 Build 2

Germany: Mun Kie B≠r

DEN HOL

4 Build 1

England: Home NWY BEL France: Home POR SPA 5 Build 2 5 Build 2

Russia: StP War Mos

Zey BER

_4 1 ann., build 1

14+14+3CD+Swe,Ser,Tun Neutral=34

Von Schlei fon HQ: You have my total sympathies, Fluff, old boy. I played 1977KS while I was commuting full-time to college, too. In addition, I put out my own zine, and worked anywhere from 25-30 hours a week. I was also involved in about 15 other games. What good is it if your too busy to wven write and say, "I intend to work you over." You didn't even say that in the press. Just attacked France like a good little moron. As for comparing our skill and n prowess at this game, well, I'm still in it and you aren't. Speaking of which, maybe you and that moron Baumeister ought to get together. You can discuss who is better at fouling up a game, witness his stupid attack on me proceeding even now in 1977KS.. So what is it that motivates you clowns to be jerks anyway? As for my being low, well, fine, you can crawl under my belly if you like, I don't mind. After all, if you want to run a picture of your rear end for all to see, fine. But why not run a horse's rear end, John? That would fit Bill's personality just fine.

((Allied press / page back))

D. Rose

"NEWS FROM THE FRONT---Laos: The best friends of the US peace movement, good old (North) Vietnam, has brought a new high to international warfare--poison gas--having been unable to defeat the Meo by any other means, including massive air strikes with napalm, white ph, CBU's, daisy cutters and all those other weapons that the horrible American war criminals left behind and the poor dedicated revolutionaries just absent mindedly happened to use here as well as in Cambodia. Against the resistance in S Vietnam they have now gone over to WWI style gas attacks, usually from A37s and F5s. Of course I'm sure we'll be hearing again from our dedicated humanitarian friends on the left about this latest attrocity, the same as we always do. If not, then undoubtably they are too busy with important things like nuclear energy protests or Chile (which has 2-3,00 political prisoners to Viet's 300-600,000). But remember that they were never agents of a foreign power. Cambodia: The Chinese have sent enough cadre and heavy weapons to upgrade what was

Cambodia: The Chinese have sent enough cadre and heavy weapons to upgrade what was essentially a light infantry force—however, the casualties against Lon Nol, the incessant purges of the followers of the old royal house and the Viets, and the insanely macho tactics used in the border war so far have left this as essentially an army of untrained scared—silly teenaged pressgang victims, good enough for beating on defenseless peasants, but, except for selected units, scarcely fit for anything more. Meanwhile Vietnam is adding to its stock of Cambodian troops—they inherited45—65,000 from us plus another 30,000 or so who fled with them during the purges. They are now training a further 60,000+ from the POW's they have taken so far. Eventually the shit will hit the fan and a greater Indochina federation will emerge—but remember that the domino theory was pure hogwash."

((Dan had another interesting commentary on the current Administration, but I'm too lazy to re-type all that for filler here. The above is slightly adjusted in that I re-did/added some punctuation to make it easier to read through, I thought, but is basically verbatim. Typos and spelling errors are mine, but Dan buys the run-on sentences. I'm curious as to the source of some of the figures, but no note on sources was apparent in that issue. I should also add that the issue I received was a sample, and thus may not have been his best copy.))

Random Notes

STANDBYs: Current list is Jakk Frost, Rick Price, Eric Kirchner, Ron Kelly, Konrad Baumeister, Joseph Rau, and Arturo Guajardo in no particular order. Remember that in the future, standbys will receive sub credit for assuming a position. Anyone wanting on or off, write in!

REPRODUCTION has been poor these last two issues, but this one should be better. I don't like those poor sheets, but then, I'm not paying maintenance on the machines either, so what can I say?

LETTERS here include Mazurkiewicz, Kirchner, and Berch, but I don't know if I'll be able to run·them this issue or not. I just have room on this page to squeeze in a few short lines from

TONY WATSON 201 Minnesota St, Las Vegas 89107
I have RURITANIA in the works. Did the cover last night. I have 130 exams to grade and my paper on the MBFR to finish up. I especially like AINES RECEIVED and the variant in BB #27."

((So that's where RURI has been! Ever consider submitting your MBFR paper as a filler article? Baumeister was about to run that variant in EGGNOG when he got it form me; I've told him to run it anyway. I just did for 3 last-minute pages, as I'm not really into variants, while EGGNOG is. Berch and Kirchner got all over me about JOHN'S NOTES, while another reader was very interested and has given me a line on ammunition--nice to see the broad spread of interests out there...)).

Allied Press: 78 Kiv (2 Man Loveri Special)

Press: Craig has made the <u>Brag</u> That he will have 10 units playing for Germany by 1902, Shit, I'll even give him till 1904, and he still wont have that many for Germany. This is my secound game agianst the Master(Master Fuck-up). Anyone in his right mind would not put it in print what he did. But, such is life in the big city. For after all you know that us poor country folk just do not know how to play the game.

It will be quite a shame if criag loses this game. He sure has made it easy on me if I lose. After all, I can just say that Craig was right, What can he say if I (According to Craig, its impossible) Win? I just have to belive that He has

thrown the game.

As for my actions in 1977KS. Just how many of you faired great in your first shot at diplomacy? Ofcourse we know that Craig has never lost????? It could be what he has been playing agianst, But that we will cover later. But even now I see that he is also trying to abandon his home country like I did in 1977KS. Could this mean incompetency on his part? God forbid that I would even mention it, After all is he not the proclaimed MASTER of Diplomacy? You had better not lose, Craig. Why I should not even last till 1905. Want to place a bet on that????? If everything worked well I have kept Germany to a build of one while keeping Russia even. If not, weal, Thats the breaks. Not even Craig would write in his press before whe results on the move on what he was trying to do. All in all, I see that I did better than Italy's NMR: I built at least 3....

Criag, my only comment to you is that you must be a very shallow person, or else you have nothing better to do than sit on your fat-ass and think up things to write in John's dip-zine. Also anyone who would brag that I am incompetent as I am supposed to be you should have me beat by 1905. I'll put \$5.00 on that. Put up or shut up BIG MOUTH. John can hold the money, The payoff in the last move of 1905. If you have me out by then you got yourself a fiver. If not I got it. After all if I'm so bad a dip-player this should be a eastpickin for a Master(?) like you.

LATE NUTE -

Bill.

J. M

((Mr. Shaffer has extended an invitation to the readership to submit press as well)) J.M.

SOME LATE NOTES

Conrad von Metzke came through at the last minute with the letter that I may run up front or even before the cover. One more day and I'd have had to run another special mailing (ouch!) as the NEXT Brutus Bulletin won't be out for THREE weeks. Unfortunately for Conrad, my mailing list right now is about 2/3s of what it was, since a lot of trades haven't subbed after being dropped, and a lot of (I suspect) former subbers have forgotten that they need to sign up again. I'll send out some letter-type notices next week, when(ever) I get the chance. Hinton, oddly enough, was a lsat-minute addition to my mailing last time, and almost wasn't included. 72 copies of #28 were sent.

Box 57066, Webster, TX 77598

Hi John:

Enclosed is a check for \$3.00, which I think buys me a 12-issue sub.

Concerning Battlestar Galactica, your stated opinion mirrors mine exactly. The premier episode was interesting enough but after the second and third my interest became extinct. It got to where I could predict the story line and ending after the first 5 minutes, so why should I waste my time for an entire hour.

The plots (I hate to apply that word to BG but I can't think of a more demeaning term) are so tiring; I mean, how much interest can one maintain in the constant Cylons-chase-the-humans-but-the-humans-outwit-them theme. My saturation point was reached long ago.

BG lacks depth and vitality, and in my book it will always suffer in comparison to Star Trek. Each episode of Trek brought new enemies, new life forms, new phenomenon, new crises, new everything. They were anything but predictable. And, many times, Star Trek delyed into the world of human relations, yea, even alien/human relations. Sure, episodes were stupid and naive, but the Star Trek batting average is still unsurpassed according to my bookkeeping.

But let's keep in mind that BG was designed to appeal to the mass audience, not to sci-fi fans. And for that reason it <u>must</u> be childish and uncomplex. Most American TV watchers are simple minded people. They dote on the trivial and unpretentious.

TV is certainly capable of generating high quality science fiction, but the mass audience is not capable of sustaining it. I'm afraid the movies, as few and far between as they are, will be our only outlet for quite awhile. For when Battle-Star Galactica falls, not a network will touch science fiction for another ten years.

((What can I add? Steve's said it all))

((Thanks for the re-sub. When a fellow publisher signs up, I take it as a compliment...))

- Steve McLandon

RANDOLPH SMYTH (Fol Si Fie)

249 First Ave, Ottawa, Ont. KIS 2G5

Fol Si Fie. Perhaps the only Dipzine in the world conceived with a double meaning (take your pick); and the only one whose title I ever saw suffixed by "(what does <u>FSF</u> mean, anyhow?)". That suffix, even the wording, is so widespread I'm beginning to worry that some people will think it's part of the name.

For the record, Fol Si Fie is from the Norman French of 1000 yrs ago, meaning "a fool, if he trusts". When I was casting around for a name five years ago, it struck me as a compact and unusually appropriate logo for a zine. However, I did have other titles in mind; what finally settled me on this one was the realization that it can be (and is) pronounced like the English "falsify. That did it--I couldn't pass it up.

I thank you for the kind words in points 1-3, but #4 ((he refers to my entry in Various Notes last issue))doesn't hold up and shouldn't make you reluctant to subscribe to other Canadian zines. If we agree to exchange a given sum as credit (say \$6), mine will run out first and I'll be the only one that will need to actually send a cheque to cover the difference. And a trade rips you off more than you realize, since FSF is available for just 3/\$1 or 10/\$3 (35¢ indeed—not until our postage rates rise again in April:)

((OK, RandoIph, you've convinced me. I'm dropping our trade and will accept a \$6 credit exchange to start with, should you acknowledge same. The check costs were my mistake; I received a check from someone up there for \$4 who only expected\$3 credit due to "bank charges" and assumed there WERE some. Your letter will get you this issue. And don't overlook Conrad's latest letter.))

nose republish this message in their zine, even during home

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the cost

avoid

OLOVE 13412 Brackley Terrace Silver Spring, Maryland 20904

(301) 384-1432

November 9, 1978

John Michalski Rt. 10, Box 526 Q Moore, OK 73165

(1 No. This arrived December 12)

Dear John.

I am confirming a letter you may have already received from Jack Frost, whose real name is probably John, something

When Jack telephoned me to give mc his last set of moves. way past the deadline, holding up my zine for the fourth time, he suggested we engage, via your zine, in a two-man game, as opposing members. I further suggested we each take the same sides and play two games simultaneously, gctting rid of some of the luck from selection. We agreed on the selection and which country would hold in civil defense.

Tell me the fee for such a game and enter my name as opposing Jack Frost.

Feel free to list it as a 'grudge game' for Jack stabbing me in Dippy 10, and for Jack not acrrying out his agreement to bring France through to second place in that game. Instead, as is apparantly his style, he choose to gobble up my centers and take his quick win, making a fcol out of me. But, in a 2-man game, only one of us will be the fool, as it will be only individual tactics that takes a win. And, in such a position, I.....am no fool.

Awaiting your reply.....

Bernie

Please publish a corrected telephone system for those who may wish to contact me from time to time via landline: Usually, during the weekday, I may be reached at my school at (301) 279-5611. Further, my teachers are trained to take moves from those who wish to leave them. Just have the teacher say back the moves given to asure correctness. I will automatically be given the messages. While I am away from my home, if I do not forget, I attach my answering device to one of my numbers, being (301) 384-1432. The caller then would have to listen to 45 seconds of message in order to leave his 20 second message. Not a lot of time, but if rehearsed, can easily suffice for telephone orders and some press. The call only need give his name, game designation, and orders. I will figure out the rest. The order: f nse C & f nwg S a edi-nwy suffices for the order for each of those units. If a person wishes to determine first if I am at home, he can call on (301)-384-0707. If no answer, he might well want to call the school SOME TIME AGO, there was a mention made of the possibility of having a pair of back-to-back 2-man grudge games between JACK FROST and BERNIE OAKLYN. In issue 27, I was about to announce that the project had fallen through, but Mr Oaklyn has sent me the letter you find on reverse, and these games are now under way! These are presented here, free of fee to the participants, as an entertainment feature for the readership. Jack Frost said initially that he thought Rod Walker had originated this particular matchup pattern of countries, but Rod has denied ever hearing of it. Whatever the source, these two are playing ARF vs EIT with Germany in CO. There are no set deadlines, as each player has requested that adjudications be made only upon receipt of orders from both sides to make NMRs a non-factor. They will, however, attempt to work near a 10-day schedule whenever possible. I will bring you these as they become available, running the games proper outside the zine and only reprinting it here at intervals. Victory conditions are, first coalition to reach 21 centers wins. There was no press submitted. Until Miller numbers become available, these will be referred to as Grudge Game 1 and Grudge Game 2.

Players: Jack Frost (ever try to ask an operator in mid Oecember for the phone number listed for 'Jack Frost'? She said, 'How about Santa Claus?'), 647 Fenton, Romeoville, IL 60441 and Bernie Oaklyn, 13412 Brackley Terrace, Silver Spring, MO 20904. I wish to point out for the record that I have been convinced earlier that "Bernie Oaklyn" is really a pseudonym for Bernard "Buddy" Tretick, a former GM and publisher of extremely low repute in the hobby a few years back; however, Mr Frost is aware of this, and if he has no objections, I will let Mr Tretick play in these specials under any name he wishes, whether it be Oaklyn, Hitler, Mudd, or whatever. I will also drop my usual habit of using quotation marks around the name Bernie Oaklyn. Mr. Oaklyn is the stated publisher of something called FRONT DE LIBERATION OU OIPLOMACY, a dipzine I have only seen three samples of, but so far at least, it seems to have avoided some of the ripoff aspects of Tretick's earlier original LA GUERRE. FRONT has had about 12 issues out so far. No notes here on frequency or costs since the latest sample I have, I-10, contained none. But, on with the show.

GRUDGE GAME ONE

Spring, 1901

GRUDGE GAME ONE.

Oaklyn: Austria: A VIE-Tri; F Tri-ALB; A Bud-RUM

France: F BRE-Eng; A Par-PIC; A Mar-BUR

Russia: F Sev-ARM; A War-UKR; A Mos-STP; F StPsc-GOB

Civil Oisorder: Germany F KIE, A MUN, A BER H

Frost: England: A Lvp-YOR; F LON-Eng; F Edi-NTH

Italy: F Nap-TYN; A VEN-Tri; A ROM-Ven Turkey: A Con-BUL; A Smy-CON; F Ank-BLA

Frost's Italy seems to have taken a quick shot at Austria and lost on the gamble; the bounce over the English Channel is as expected as what I would have been a bounce over the Black Sea; however, either Oaklyn expected the move of Sev-Arm to bounce Turkey's most-likely move of A Smy-Arm, or figures something I'm missing, or... It will be interesting to see where A Yor winds up, too: Would you send it to Holland to face France, Oenmark to face Russia, make a risky try at Bel, or something else?

GRUOGE GAME TWO

Spring, 1901

GRUOGE GAME TWO

Frost: Austria: <u>A VIE-Tyo</u>; F Tri-AOR; A Bud-TRI

France: F Bre-MAO; A Par-PIC; A Mar-PIE

Russia: F StPsc-GOB; A Mos-STP; A War-UKR; F SEV-Bla

Civil Oisorder: Germany: F KIE, A MUN, A BER H

Oaklyn:

England: F Lon-NTH; F Edi-NWG; A LVP-Iri/imp Italy: F Nap-ION; A VEN-Tyo; A ROM-Ven Turkey: A Smy-ARM; F ANK-Bla; A Con-BUL

Well, well, well. At least here the Black Sea bounce DID show up, with Oaklyn's Turkey doing what I would have expected off the cuff for a Turkey (country) to do. The interesting as in #1, only here because both factor here is that the English Channnel is empty sides ignored it!Frost's France used A MAR to bolster the Italian front, a good move at the expense of giving up a sure neutral gain. A Par-Pic threatens Bel while covering Bre against a threat that surprisingly did not materialize, so since France HAS to pick up at least one sure gain, he had to take the chance and use the last French unit, the fleet, to be in position to get one of the neutrals. In retrospect, were that fleet now in the Channel, it could guarantee Belgium, but it was unrealistic to expect it to succeed in getting there to begin with. Who could have forseen that A LVP would be totally out of it? It can't even cover Lon vs what should have been an anticipated French fleet in the Channel, let alone convoy to whatever target he'd had in mind. This may prove to be a costly flub. I'm sure he meant EDI, but the orders say IRI quite clearly. He is fortunate again that there is no French fleet in the Channel, for at least the F NTH can pick up a neutral Hol or Den and go on, as any build in Lon or Edi can enter the North Sea unopposed in S'02 now, or support such unit out if Frost turns F MAO around at the cost of a certain neutral gained to threaten from Eng/Iri/ NAO. Let's see what they do. Next issue will be out Jan 5, fellas. If you hurry, we could maybe see builds too?

(As a rule, I don't comment on games, but these being without diplomacy, and me being able to use some filler, I thought I would. If the players object, I'll drop it. If any-anyone in the audience wishes to comment, feel free to do so. Only, please type!)

8*******

This cute little item is straight out of Jim Bumpas' LIBERTERRÆAN:

MID EAST COUNTDOWN

This week's Mid East top 25 is brought to you by the friendly folks at Camp David Oldsmobile, where you can make the deal of your life on the Olds of your dreams!

(25) Sidon, You're Rocking the Boat [Lebanese Luters, Atlantic]; (24) I Hear Mcnachem, But You Can't Begin [Sitdown Sam and the Sinai Settlers, Jet]; (23) Hua Can I Say After Hussein You're Sorry? [Mojo Mao and the Gang of Four, Capitol]; (22) Amman and a Woman [Hareem, Epic]; (272) Oman and a Woman [Seraglio, Opec]; (21) Shah na-na [Shah na-na, Opic]; (2Dà) Sa'ana-na [Sa-' ana-na, Aspic]; (20) Jew Eilat Up My Life [Jenny and the GroSingers, Tuth'piq]; (19) Just Sarkis in the Night [Beirut Battlers, Deutsche Gramophone Gesellschaft]; (18) She Loves You Fran-ji-yeh [Suleiman, Wissenschaft und Gemeinschaft]; (17) I Wanna Hold Your Land [Sitdown Sam and the Sinai Settlers, Jet, flipside of #24];....

What are the first (top) 16, Jim? This is all my issue had....

This piece is from ENERGY MANAGEMENT #295 and speaks for itself.

Austria Nixes Nuclear Alternative

Austrian voters have decided that they do not want nuclear power even though

they have a \$530 million atomic plant that is fully operational and needs only to be turned on. The vote on the referendum, which was called by Chancellor Bruno Kreisky to avoid a troublesome parliamentary fight, was extremely close: 1.57 million pronuclear to 1.6 million antis. Kreisky, a Socialist, blamed the defeat of the referendum on Conservatives who, though in favor of nuclear power, could not bring themselves to lend political support to the Socialist government.

Mothballing the plant will deprive the nation—already importing 65% of its energy—of 692 megawatts of electric power. That amount of electricity could fulfill the needs of almost 700,000 people, or nearly 10% of the 7.5 million Austrian population. Supporters of the project claimed that, unless nuclear power and other domestic energy sources are developed, the country would be 80% dependent on foreign fuel supplies by the end of the next decade.

Dear Mr. Columbus:

Thank you for your good letter which enclosed a proposal entitled, "Reaching the East by Sailing Westward." We have read this with interest. Certainly what you describe represents an ambitious undertaking, and members of our staff have reviewed the proposal in some detail. Unfortunately, the plan you describe falls somewhat outside the scope of our particular fields of interest; but we feel you still may benefit from some of our staff's comments, which follow:

- 1. Although I personally agree with you that "the world is round" (and indeed it was through a grant from this very foundation that the original round-world theory was developed) you must understand that we have a rather conservative board, whose members are unlikely to base any substantial grant upon an unproven theory, so open to public controversy.
- When you claim that "the distance by sea between Spain and India is very short," we are not certain just what evidence you have for this, or indeed, just what you mean by "very short." Perhaps you could clarify this.
- 3. We wonder why you feel that three ships are required for this voyage. In view of the considerable criticism to which foundations are subject, we wonder if this is not an area in which the budget could be trimmed back, to avoid undue criticism.

Finally, some of our staff are wondering just what overall effect you expect your proposed voyage to have. Our foundation staff has been encouraged by its board to look for programs of particular leverage and significance rather than to support routine, pedestrain projects. Incidentally, there is some question as to whether the forthcoming tax reform law will allow foundations to pay travel expenses for individuals to the extent required by your proposal.

I am in no position to make any firm commitment; but should you wish to revise your proposal in such a way that all of the above questions can be satisfied, I would be most happy to meet with you again.

I want to assure you that your revised proposal will be given every consideration and regret that we cannot encourage you concerning the one you sent us.

> Sincerely yours, Alanzo DeQuintalla Chief Accountant & Executive Secretary

Queen Isabella Foundation

ANOTHER REASON WHY BRIAN, ROY, TONY, AND OTHERS ARE SUCH IDIOTS

Some weeks ago we were playing some game (Risk or bridge or D&D or something in that vein) when the conversation turned to nuclear war with the Soviet Union. Roy proceeded to demonstrate his lack of knowledge and fufill the stereotype of an obnoxious, pompous, pseudo-intellectual member of a certain ethnic group which controls the Senate and the Federal Reserve System. His logic began that in case of a nuclear war we would all be dead.

This bothered me a great deal because it is a fallacy which has been perpetrated by people infected with what I refer to as the "On the Beach" syndrome. I explained that not everyone would die, but we probably would incenerated in a fireball. The reason for our inevitable destruction is that your typical i megaton warhead can destroy everything within about a 15 mile radius, if my memory serve me correctly. As Mahwah (about 15 miles away with a great many hills in the way) has a very large Ford assembly plant and Ridgefield Park (about 15 miles to the south) has a PSE&G generating plant, and Paramus and Saddlebrook have (about 5 to 7 miles away to the south) I-80, the Garden State Parkway, US-46, and NJ-14 and NJ-4 running through their boundaries, I concluded that the odds were quite good the Soviet Union would drop a few warheads on Bergen County. (We also have 900 thousand people as well as the George Washington Bridge, loads of roads, and a lot more industry.)

Roy and Brian thought that this was the most ridiculous thing that they had ever heard. Tony, possessing no opinion on the matter was quiet at that time. Roy told us that there was no reason to nuke Bergen County. Brian felt secure in the knowledge that only major cities (New York, Los Angeles, London, Paris, etc.) and major military bases (Fort Dix, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Groton, CT, etc.) were targets.

I asked if they had any ideas as to the number of warheads the Soviet Union had. No response. I anquired as to the number of major cities and military instillations there were in the West. "A couple of hundred"was the reply from Roy. I had dug up something showing the number of warheads, both tactical and non-tactical. Even the people in the background (probably Greg and Andrew) figured out that there were still a couply of thousand left over. I asked if the intent of nuclear weapons was merely decorative or utilitarian. Then I let lose with questions dealing with the nature of war, the nature of thermonuclear war, the economic and demographic breakdown of the country, the effects of a nuclear attack upon our culture and Bergen County. After several uncertain and unsatisfactory attempts at responses, Tony swung over to my side. He realized that a retaliatory strike is important. He also began to grasp the idea that the "winner" would have more people, more industry, more available resources, better transportation and communication, and a unified government (which probably won't be much of a problem for either the Soviet Union or this country. both have undertaken measure to protect the bureacracy) so as to impose a conventional or nuclear, san economic, or a diplomatic solution on the "loser", and attempt to reconstruct the devastated society. Bergen County's devastation would harm the metroplitan area (what's left at any rate) and probably the Northeast as several major roads would no longer exist. (Hudson County has all of the railroad yards.) and industry would be non-existant. Without an adequate electrical-generating system, it would be difficult to reconstruct industry or encourage resettlement. The loss of FDU and other colleges would interfere with training and educating a trained class of engineers, doctors, managers, etc. that would be needed to rebuild.

Well, that's what I thought. Roy has persisted in his idiotcy. I have found a flaw though. Since Roy does not believe in fallout or nukes in Bergen, I asked him how we would all die. No response. (Brian does believe in fallout from Pittsburgh, Chicago, etc.)

It's painfully obvious to most of you as to the situation I must endure when I go home, and helps to explain why Roy once bid 5 Hearts and went down 1800 points when my partner had previously bid Hearts, Roy's partner continously bid anything but Hearts, and I had doubled Roy's 4 No Trump (No he doesn't understand Blackwood.) and some earlier bid.

(- Alan Rowland)

((My response on reverse))

Dear Alan,

I was pleasantly surprised to find a WARMONGER here already. I don't agree on the evaluation of Bergen County being so strategically valuable as to merit any Soviet warheads, however. Sure, they'll have thousands of warheads "left"--assuming that every warhcad of the first wave works perfectly, hits its target dead center, and completely devastates both the target and the ability to recover. Bergen County, wherever it is, might be devastated if a Soviet army were using nukes to aid its GROUND ADVANCE across Bergen County, but even Idi Amin wouldn't launch an ICBM from Kazahkstan to cut New Jersey state highway 14. Not unless Soviet troops were landing at Asbury Park. Even then, the road would be cut by a cruiser or submarine's missle, not an ICBM in a first (or even 2d,3d) wave. If the Soviets used enough nukes to flatten Bergen County and east coast counties with similiar "industrial" targets. they would have enough missles to knock us out between the Alleghenys and the sea, leaving out N Carolina and below. In fact, if the county needed only 6 nukes to flatten it out, how many counties could they hit? About 6 states worth? What about the other 44? (I'm assuming, safely I hope, that you're not one of those people who view I nuke as something that will leave only a 200' hole 20 miles across...). Another point: strategic warheads are NOT used to "cut roads". A slab of concrete on the surface is not a target readily destroyed by an Ablast: it's like using a flamethrower to light a cigarette. A nuke is good against a CITY, where heavy structural damage in a small, concentrated area will do you some good, but cutting roads/RRs in an area like the US weere only inconvenient detours would be the result is ludicrous. Cut the trans-siberian RR, yes--formerly 1, now 2 paths across a continent might be worth it. But not Bergen County, New Jersey.

No, the real targets are the first-wave military facilities. Then the big cities as hostages. The "extra" warheads are needed to go back and RE-hit those targets to keep repairs from doing any good, break up efforts to set up alternate sites, and . blackmail others (threaten Mexicao City, Caracas, Djarkata, e.g.). Or even to just HIT those bases that suffered only a near-miss. (6 miles off after a 12,000 mile journey isn't much, but makes a big difference between knocking out a base or just collapsing some roofs...).No, I really don't think they give a shit about Bergen County, (unless Ft Dix is there). The NJ Parkway is a critical artery, but what good is an artery between a nuked NYC and a ditto Philly?

Letter from MARK BERCH

BB #27 has just arrived, and I'd like to clear up afew ambiguities about your comments about my DIPLOMACY DIGEST. While on one level it is true that its "small physically", in fact it runs an average of 11½ pages, ever since it went center staple nine issues ago. While the pages look smaller, because it is reduced (to about the size of DW's print), the pages are actually somewhat larger than the typical dipzine, since it is typed in elite, rather than pica, allowing more characters per line. The double issues are in fact precisely that, always running 23 pages. This allows me to save postage costs, which, along with not trading, gives me one of the very cheapest rates (25¢) in the hobby for a 11-12 page zine. As for your somewhat meandering comments on the frequency, issue #17 appeared in the 17th month.

Touchy, aren't I?

Just to show you the cultural gap, when you started talking about an "AR15", I thought that you were referring to a very fine stero speaker put out by Acustic Research. And yessir, blasting antihills with ammo "better than those...our boys had in: "Nam" sure does sound thrilling.

((I remember Acoustic Research as a case study from Bus Admin my last semester, oddly enough. But, what I said was that those nylon, 30-round clips were better than those in 'Nam, not the ammo. Although at \$7 for a box of 20, it OUGHT to be. I'll agree that Eric Clapton sounds better than an AR15, but, "different strokes" and all that.))

Orbiting Telescope Delights Scientists

A new orbiting observatory carrying the world's largest X-ray telescope radioed back its first picture yesterday - the image of X-rays coming from the edge of what may be one of space's mysterious black holes.

When the picture first appeared on a Goddard Space Flight Center television monitor as a collection of bright dots against a black background, scientists and engineers who had worked for years on the \$87 mil-

lion project were ecstatic.

The significance of today's event is for the first time X-ray astronomy has become of age, and it has achieved the kind of resolution and sensitivity which has been traditional in the fields of radio and optical astronomy," said Dr. Riecardo Giacconi of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

HE SAID THE telescope should be able to detect X-rays from objects two thirds of the way toward the edge of the universe, meaning the satellite will be seeing rudiation created roughly 10 billion years ago.

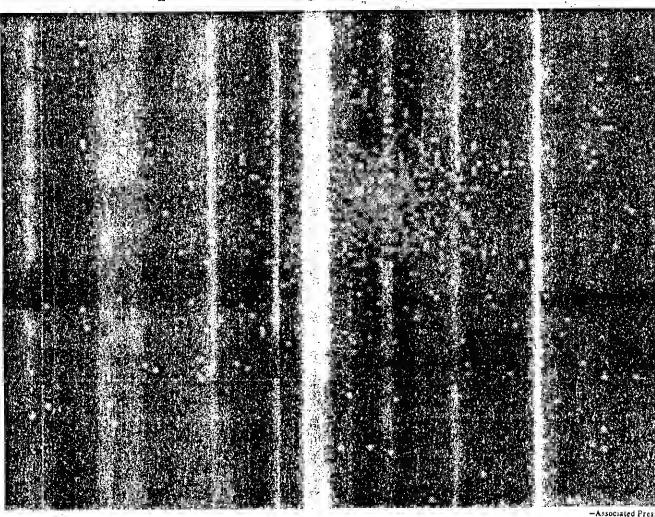
The automated space agency satellite, known officially as HEAO 2 but called Einstein by its scientists, was launched from Cape Canaveral on Monday into a near-perfect 330-mile high orbit. Yesterday's operation was the culmination of a week of ster-by-step activation procedures.

2 The ricture that was reconstructed by computer from data radioed back by the satellite was a test to demonstrate the eapability of the telescope, which has a 23-inch-wide mirror and an II-foot focal length.

. Giacconi, the principal investiga-

tor, called the picture "the proof of the pudding."

"FINE SCIENTIFIC significance is what it fells us we are going to get in the tuture," he said, noting the tale-



This is the first picture taken by an orbiting telescope of the double star Cygnus X-1, a system located about 6,000

light years from Earth and believed to contain a mysterious 'black hole.'

scope is 100 to 1.000 times more sensitive than previous X-ray detectors placed above Earth's atmospheric screen.

The target yesterday was a star system in the Milky Way galaxy years away.

location is we' bright.

Cygnus X-1

happens to be the other objects.

called Cygnus N-1. Glacconi said it best candidate for a black hole, Giacwas selected at the test because its coni said. It was discovered in 1967 nown and it is very and observations by a smaller X-ray observatory shapped that its X-ray which is 6,000 light emissions are talike there seen from



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